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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: January 29, 1957

SUBJECT: Visit of King Saud

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Dana Adams Schmidt

NE - David D. Newsom

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Mr. Schmidt telephoned asking whether the reports were correct that King Saud was asking \$50 million a year as rent on the Dhahran Air Field. Mr. Newsom said that this must have been based on a very early press report when negotiations first started. He said it is not uncommon for large demands to be made at the outset of such negotiations. Current thinking, he said, is on a more modest basis.

Mr. Schmidt asked whether the United States would raise with the King the problem of the exclusion of American citizens of the Jewish faith. Mr. Newsom said he did not know the details of the agenda but presumed that various matters of importance in United States-Saudi relations would be listed.

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